K England. Commissioners nominated, &c.

BRITISH MUSEUM

AN ESSAY

Upon the Fifteenth Article of the Treaty of UNION.

AMONGST all the *Articles of the Treaty of Union*, there has been none more talked of, and less understood, than the *Fifteenth*, concerning the *Rise, Nature, and Management of the Equivalents.*

Upon this Subject, those who desired to be thought very Wise, of deep Understanding, and Great reach of Thought, did vent themselves with a certain Air, as if they pitied the Credulity and Ignorance of the Contrivers, and so had Recourse to the ordinary Refuge of dull People, who think they show their Wit, by Laughing at what they do not understand.

This Paper will unriddle (I hope) these Mysteries, if there are any; and in order to which, I shall take the *Article* by Paragraphs, and Explain them separately.

The Fifteenth Article.

WHereas by the Terms of this Treaty, the Subjects of Scotland *for preserving an Equality of Trade throughout the united Kingdom, will be lyable to several Customs and Excises now pay-*

able in England, *which will be applicable towards payment of the Debts of* England *contracted before the Union; It is agreed, that* Scotland *ſhall have an Equivalent for what the Subjects thereof ſhall be ſo charged towards Payment of the ſaid Debts of* England, *in all Particulars whatſoever, in manner following*, viz.

For underſtanding this *Paragraph*, it is to be obſerved.

1*mo*. That no Communication of the Trade of *England* can be given to the Subjects of *Scotland*, unleſs we are ſatisfied to pay equal Cuſtoms and Duties upon Export and Import. The Reaſon is plain, for otherwiſe the Merchants reſiding in *Scotland*, wou'd be put in a Condition to Ruin the whole Trade of *England*.

2*do*. That an *Equality of Exciſes* in both Kingdoms, is as neceſſary as an *Equality of Cuſtoms*, for not only all immediate Burdens on *Trade* are to be regarded, but even theſe things which Affect and Influence Trade; for nothing is more Obvious than this, That if we in *Scotland* be put in a Condition to under-live the *Engliſh* by a great Inequality on Meat and Drink, we will be able for the ſame Reaſons, to under-ſell them; which will be very evident in conſidering the Expenſe of Victualling Ships, and Supporting Sailers; for if that can be done with us much Cheaper than in *England*, there can never enſue a good Harmony between the two Nations in point of Trade.

3*tio*. That tho' a *Federal Union* was Practicable between the two Kingdoms (as I believe it is not) yet even by that Union, we behoved to undergo the Burden of equal Cuſtoms and Exciſes, otherwiſe there cou'd be no Communication of Trade.

4*to*. That a great Part of *the* Engliſh *Cuſtoms and Exciſes* is impoſed and appropriated towards Payment of their Debts; ſo that the paying of the *Engliſh Debts*, and the paying of equal Cuſtoms and Exciſes, are almoſt reciprocal Terms

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to ſignifie one and the ſame thing; or otherwiſe, that the Cuſtoms and Exciſes payed after the Union, will be appropriated towards paying our own Debts, which is ſtill the ſame, as ſhall more fully appear hereafter.

5*to.* That theſe Debts (being after the Union, to be called *The Debts of* Great Britain) are ſo neceſſary and inevitable Burdens on *Scotland*, that neither by an Incorporating or Federal Union with *England*, can we be free of 'em, ſince as I ſaid before, they are included and wrapped up in the very Notion of equal Cuſtoms and Exciſes.

From theſe Poſitions it follows, That ſince under all ſorts of Union whatſomever, with a Communication of Trade we muſt be Subjected to *equal Cuſtoms and Exciſes*, and that a great Part of theſe is applyed towards Payment of the *Debts of* England, therefore in common Juſtice, a Proviſion behoved to be made to *Scotland*, for re-imburſing us of what we ſhall be charged on the Score of theſe Debts, which by *this Article of the Treaty*, is called *An Equivalent*.

This *Equivalent* is ſo Contrived and Adjuſted, that thereby we cannot properly look on our ſelves as engaged in the *Engliſh* Debts, for no Man can be properly ſaid to pay a Debt for another, when the Money is either advanced before hand to the Payer, or at furtheſt, the next Moment after it is payed out, which ſhall hereafter be made very plain.

It is needleſs for any Perſon to Object here, That there is no Coherence between the paying of equal Cuſtoms and Exciſes, and paying the Debts of *England*; for that theſe might be payed without our being burdened with thoſe, or troubled with any ſuch hard Name as an *Equivalent*, ſince our Cuſtoms and Exciſes after the Union, might be applyed either towards the Payment of our own Debts, or for ſuch Ends, and Uſes as the *Parliament* of *Scotland* ſhall appoint

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I'll perhaps yield all this, but if the *Commissioners of the Treaty* had put Matters on that Foot, we cou'd had no Pretension to the 398085 *l.* 10 *sh. sterl.* that by this *Article* is to be advanced to *Scotland* at the Commencement of the Union, by which means, we should want a Fund or Stock to Trade with, and a *Communication of Trade*, in that case, wou'd be like the giving a Man the Property of a Rich Mine, who wants the Materials and Ability to dig it, for without a Stock of Money put in our Hands, a *Communication of Trade* can be of very little Use to us.

By this *Article* then we are to state our selves as engaged in the *English Debts*; and tho' this may appear to be a *Paradox* to some, yet I incline to be of Opinion, That we have better hazard to improve a Communication of Trade, by entering into an Union with *England*, when that Kingdom is engaged in Debts, than if it had been free of any. *For Instance*, If we had entered into an Union with *England* at the late *Revolution*, we could have had no Pretence to entitle us to a Sum of Money *per Advance*, and so would have wanted Means to carry on any valuable Trade.

I shall say no more upon this Paragraph, only it is evident that we are to have an Equivalent for all Sums we shall be charged with upon the Score of the *English* Debts contracted before the Union, in all Particulars whatsoever.

A 2d Paragraph.

That before the Union of the said Kingdoms the Sum of three hundred ninety eight thousand and eighty five Pound ten Shillings, be granted to Her Majesty by the Parliament of England, *for the Uses after mentioned, being the Equivalent to be answered to* Scotland, *for such Parts of the said Customs and Excises upon all Exciseable Liquors, with which that Kingdom is to be charged upon the Union, as will be applicable to the Payment of the Debts of* England, *according to the Proportions, which the present Customs in* Scot-

Scotland *being thirty thousand Pounds* per Annum, *do bear to the Customs of* England *computed at one Million three hundred fourty one thousand five hundred and fifty nine Pounds* per Annum, *and which the present Excises on Exciseable Liquors in* Scotland, *being thirty three thousand and five hundred Pounds* per Annum, *do bear to the Excises on Exciseable Liquors in* England, *computed at nine hundred fourty seven thousand six hundred and two Pounds* per Annum, *which Sum of three hundred ninety eight thousand eighty five Pounds ten shillings, shall be due and payable from the time of the Union.*

Before I say any thing upon the *Equivalent* granted in this Paragraph, it will be necessary to take notice, That tho the Debts of *England* will amount to 20 *Millions*, yet 'tis plain from the *English Acts of Parliament*, that there are not above 17 *Millions*, for which there are any Appropriations or Funds for their Re-payment: The Reason of which is either because the *Parliament of* England did not look upon these as just Debts, or that they might be payed otherways than by *Appropriations*. But whatever is the Reason why these are not provided for, yet 'tis certain by the *Article*, That *Scotland* is to get an Equivalent for any Parts of the *English* Debts it shall be charged with, providing only, these were contracted before the Union. In coming to know which, there will be little Mystery; for neither their Debts, the time of Contracting them, nor the Term of their Payment can be huddled up so, but that any Person may know them.

As for the Sum of 398085 *lib.* 10 *sh.* stipulated in this *Paragraph*, it is granted to *Scotland* as an *Equivalent* for such Parts of our present Customs and Excises, as will be applicable towards the Debts of *England*; which Concession proceeds upon this Rule, *That as the Customs of* England *being* 1341569 lib. per Annum, *yields such* Quotas *yearly for such*

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nd such Ends; *so the present Customs of* Scotland *being* 30000 l. *er Annum*; *will yield such and such Proportions towards the same Ends*, and the like as to the English *and* Scots *Excises*.

For Example,

As the Customs of *England* being 1341559 *lib.* will yield after the Union yearly,

1.	Towards the Support of the Civil Government of *Great-Britain*	253514
2.	Towards the general Expence of the Nation	025480
3.	Towards the Debts of *England*, expiring some in *June*, some in *August*, some in *September* 1710.	982946
4.	Towards the Debts of *England*, from the Commencement of the Union till the Remainder of a Term of 99 Years.	079619
	In full of the said	1341559

So the Customs of *Scotland* being 30000 *lib.* will yield yearly as follows.

1.	Towards the Civil Government of *Britain* - -	5669
2.	Towards the general Expence of the Nation -	0570
3.	Towards the Debts till *September* 1710 - - - - -	21981
4.	Towards the Debts appropriated for 99 Years -	01780
	In full of the said - -	30000

The Excises of *Scotland* and *England* are Disposed of, and Proportioned after the same manner, *viz.*

As the Excises of *England* being 947602 *lib.* does yield yearly to the following Uses, *viz.*

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1. Towards the Civil Government of *Britain*	269837
2. Towards the general Expense of the Nation	085581
3. Towards the Debts of *England* till *Sept:* 1710	025267
4. Towards the Debts appropriated for 99 years	566917
In full of the said	947602

So the Excises of *Scotland* being 33 500 *lib:* will yield towards the same Uses, as follows.

1. Towards the Civil Government of *Britain*	9539
2. Towards the general Expense of the Nation	3025
3. Towards the Debts of *England*, till *Sept.* 1710.	0893
4. Towards the Debts for 99 years	20043
In full of the said	33500

By these Accompts *Scotland* contributes yearly towards the Debts of *England*, out of its Customs and Excises together, extending both to the Sum of 63500 *lib:* as follows.

1. Towards the Civil Government of *Britain*	15208
2. Towards the general Expense of the Nation	03595
3. Towards the Debts of *England* till *Sept:* 1710	22874
4. Towards these Debts for the Remainder of 99 years	21823
In full of the said	63500

From this Accompt, we may observe, that *Scotland* does contribute yearly, from the Commencement of the Union, till *June*, ---- *August* and *September*, 1710; the two last Articles extending together, to 44690, but that after *Sept:* 1710, we

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will be only lyable in 21823 *lib*: for the remainder of a Term of 99 years, so that there will fall at the foresaid Month of *September* 1710, of our Customs and Excises together, the Sum of 22874 *lib*: which Sum falling, operates this, that either it will be applyed towards other Uses, or otherways, that the Debts are paid, for which that Sum was Appropriated, and so that there will be an Ease given to the Subjects of *Great-Britain*, in their *Customs* and *Excises*; for at the same time, there falls of the *Customs* and *Excises* of *England* 1068207 lib: *per Annum*, which with the said Sum that falls in *Scotland*, will make an Ease upon the Subjects of *Great-Britain* of 1091081 *lib*: yearly.

But if this Sum be continued after *Sept.* 1710, and applyed towards other uses, *as for Instance*, to pay other Debts Contracted before the Union, then there will arise a yearly Equivalent due to *Scotland* of 22874 *lib*: to be allowed for so many years, as that Sum is raised out of the *Customs and Excises* of *Scotland*, applicable to the Debts of *England*.

The above-mentioned Sums, out of our *Customs and Excises viz*, 22874 payable till *Sept:* 1710, and the 21823 payable for the remainder of a Term of 99 years, give rise to this Equivalent of 398085 *lib*: 10 *sh*: after this manner.

The 22874 *lib*: payable till *Sept*: 1710, being 3 years and 4 Moneths after the Union, beginning at the 1*st* of *May* next, is valued to be worth 68931 *lib*: and the 21823 *lib*: payable from the Commencement of the Union, for a remainder of a Term of 99 years, is valued as a *Perpetuity* at 15 years and 3 Moneths Purchase, which extends to 329154 *lib*: 10 *sh*:

These Sums, *viz.* 68931 *lib*: as the value of the 22874 *lib*: yearly, and 329154 *lib*: 10 *sh*: as the value of 21823 in Perpetuity, gives the next Sum of 398085 *lib*: 10 *sh*: mentioned in the Paragraph.

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Upon this Sum of 329154 *lib*: 10 *ſh*: it is to be obſerved,

1*mo*. That it is only an *Equivalent* for ſuch Sums of our preſent Cuſtoms and Exciſes, as will be applicable towards the *Debts of England*: for if our Cuſtoms and Exciſes had been higher than at preſent, when the *Equivalent* was Calculated, in that caſe, a far greater Sum had been due; but this will not at all prejudge *Scotland*, if after the Union theſe Cuſtoms and Exciſes ſhould run higher, for ſtill a proportionable *Equivalent* will be due, and payable by this *Article*, as will be yet more fully cleared.

2*do*. That there are no Fractions taken notice of, in the Calculation of the Equivalent, made by the Commiſſioners of the Treaty, for theſe (it ſeems) were always turned over to the Advantage of *Scotland*.

3*tio*. That the greateſt part of this Equivalent, which (as before mentioned) has its riſe from the Proportion payable towards the *Engliſh Debts*, for the remainder of 99 years is valued at 15 years & 3 *M*onths purchaſe, becauſe moſt of all the Loans that have been made in *England*, upon any branch of their Duties or Impoſitions, were ſtill at the ſame number of years and Moneths Purchaſe.

Having now Explained the riſe of the Equivalent of 398085 *lib*: 10 *ſh*: it is next to be obſerved from the Paragraph, that this Sum is to be granted to Her Majeſty by the *Parliament of England* before the Union, and ſo it will be done in this Seſſion of that *Parliament*.

It will be needleſs to explain the manner, that the *Parliament of England* uſes to take, for raiſing ſuch like Sums, for that will appear clearly, from the ſeveral *Acts of that Parliament*, ſince the *Revolution*; only in a Word, If the *Parliament of England*, ſhould out of any unappropriated Fund, ſettle a Sum, little exceeding yearly 26000 *Lib*: for 99 years, (but Redeemable by Parliament,) on theſe who ſhould Advance the fore-

ſaid 398085 *Lib.* 10 *ſh*: which is the ordinary method, by which Mony is raiſed there. I make no doubt, but that Sum would be Advanced to *Scotland*, in leſs than 8 Days.

I ſhould ſay little more upon this Paragraph, if it were not to Anſwer a very common Difficulty made about the getting this Sum paid to us, which is a certain Diffidence and Jealouſie, that proceeds more from a narrowneſs of Soul, than any other Reaſon; for tho there were Sums promiſed to us, ſome years ago, in the time of the *Civil Wars*, which were never paid; yet that was done only by a Diſaffected Party in *England*, to another in *Scotland*, without the Concurrence of the *Sovereign*. But this *Stipulation*, as it proceeds upon a nobler Cauſe, *viz.* A Principle of *Juſtice*, in not giving us the Burden of Debts we never Contracted, ſo it has a more Friendly end in it, which is to put us in a way of Thriving, in order to mutual Support and Aſſiſtance. Beſides it is otherways Secured and Confirmed to us, *viz.* not only by an Act of the *Parliament of England*, with conſent of Her Majeſty; (which is a ſurer Fund of Credit, than any this Day in *Europe*,) but likeways, by a Fundamental Article of a Solemn Treaty.

A Third Paragraph of the Article.

And in regard, that after the Union, Scotland *becoming lyable to the ſame Cuſtoms and Duties payable on Import and Export, and to the ſame Exciſes on all exciſable Liquors as in* England, *as well upon that Account, as upon the account of the increaſe of Trade and People, (which will be the happy Conſequence of the Union,) the ſaid Revenues will much improve beyond the before-mentioned Annual Values thereof, of which no preſent Eſtimate can be made: Yet nevertheleſs, for the Reaſons foreſaid, there ought to be a proportionable Equivalent anſwered to* Scotland. It is agreed, *That after the Union, there ſhall be an Accompt kept of the ſaid Duties ariſing in* Scotland, *to the end it may appear what ought to be anſwered*

ſwered to Scotland *as an Equivalent for ſuch Proportion of the ſai Increaſe, as ſhall be applicable to the Payment of the Debts of* Englan *And for the further and more effectual anſwering the ſeveral End hereafter mentioned,* It is agreed, *That from and after the Union the whole Increaſe of the Revenues of Cuſtoms and Euties on Im port and Export, and Exciſe upon Exciſable Liquors in* Scotland *over and above the Annual Produce of the ſaid reſpective Duties as above ſtated, ſhall go & be applyed for the Term of* Seven Year *to the uſes hereafter mentioned; and that upon the ſaid account there ſhall be anſwered to* Scotland *Annually from the end of Seven Years after the Union an Equivalent in Proportion to ſuch part of the ſaid Increaſe, as ſhall be applicable to the Debts of* England.

From this Paragraph 'tis to be obſerved, 1*mo.* That in regard by an increaſe of Trade, the Revenues of *Cuſtoms and Exciſes* in *Scotland*, will much improve above their preſent Extent, therefore there ſhall be an Accompt kept in *Scotland*, by which it may appear what ought to be anſwered to *Scotland* as an *Equivalent* for ſuch Proportions of the *Engliſh Debts* as we ſhall pay.

2*do.* That which is moſt Remarkable in this whole Article, is particularly to be taken Notice of, *viz.* That from the Commencement of the *Union*, the whole Increaſe of the Revenues of *Cuſtoms and Duties* on Import and Export, and *Exciſe* upon *Exciſeable Liquors*, over and above the Annual Produce of the ſaid reſpective Duties, as above ſtated, ſhall be applyed for the Term of Seven Years, to the Uſe and Advantage of *Scotland*, the meaning whereof is hereby illuſtrated.

Suppoſe, the *Cuſtoms* of *Scotland* ſhall after the Union, (what upon the account of a greater Trade, or upon the account of taking upon us the *Engliſh* Cuſtoms) ſhould increaſe to 80000 *l. ſterl.* which I believe no trading Man will

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doubt of; then 'tis plain, that in regard there's an Increase of these Customs of 50000 l. above the present Extent, therefore that Increase is by this Paragraph allowed to *Scotland* yearly, for the foresaid *Term* of Seven Years, which will be a great Encouragement to *Scotland*, and by consequence an Advantage to the whole *Island*; since 'tis not to be doubted, but such an *Annual Sum* of 50000 will be imployed during that time, towards such Ends and Uses as will be most for the Honour and Advantage of this poor Country.

I am very Confident, that the *Customs* of *Scotland*, will amount yearly after the *Union*, to the above-mentioned Sum of 80000, or rather above it; but am not so positive as to the Extent of the *Excises*: However, if these should likewise increase, 'tis evident by this Paragraph, that their whole Increase above what they are now Farmed at, *viz.* 33500 l. will likewise for the Term of Seven Years be apply-ed for the behoof of *Scotland*.

Of all the Increase of these Customs for the Term of Seven Years, not one Farthing can be carried out of the Country; therefore the least Value we can put upon this Concession, may be computed to be 350000 l. and if the Excises should likewise increase, the Value wou'd rise to a far greater Sum.

Upon this Concession of the increase of *Custom and Excises* for Seven Years, 'tis likewise to be observed, that the Sum of 22874 l. that falls at *September* 1710 above-mentioned, will likewise go for the remainder of the Term of Seven Years, after the Union, towards the behoof of *Scotland*, if so be that the Customs and Excises that raise that Sum are continued, and not appropriated for other Uses.

3*tio*. From the last part of the Paragraph, 'tis to be observed, That there shall be answered to *Scotland* annually after the Expiration of the foresaid Term of Seven Years, an *Equivalent* in Proportion to such parts of the Increase as shall be

be applyed towards Payment of the Debts of *England*. For explaining of which, I ſhall ſubjoin the following Accompt.

Suppoſe after the foreſaid *Term* of Seven Years, the Cuſtoms of *Scotland* ſhould riſe to 120 l. yearly, which is an Increaſe of 90000 l. above what they are now ſtated at; in that Caſe, the ſaid Increaſe of 90000 l. wou'd be diſpoſed of as follows.

Towards the Civil Government of *Britain*	17007
Towards the General Expenſe of the Nation	01710
Towards Payment of the Debts of *Britain*	71283
In full of the ſaid	90000

This laſt Article of the Accompt is very Remarkable, extending to no leſs than a *Sum* of 71287 l. to be applicable towards the Debts contracted before the *Union*. But this needs not amuſe any Perſon: For in the *firſt* place, if there be a Peace concluded, and ſo an end put to the preſent *War*, then will the Debts of *England* be in a few Years fully payed. The Conſequence of which will be, that the Cuſtoms and Excifes, which after the *Union*, will be payable by the *Subjects* of *Great-Britain*, ſhall then be intirely taken off and let fall. In the *next* place, *Tho'* the ſaid Sum of 71287 l. be applicable yearly towards the *Payment* of *Engliſh Debts*; yet we ſhall have an Annual *Equivalent* to the Extent of that *Sum*. Which leads me in to conſider a *Queſtion*, Whether or not that Sum of 71287 l. will be ſent up yearly to *England* for paying theſe Debts? I *Anſwer*, No, for if it ſhould, then, by the Nature of the Equivalents, that very Sum behoved to be ſent back to us again, which is a certain needleſs *Trouble*; and Lawyers, when they intend to amuſe their Clients with ſpeaking a ſort of Latine, have this in their Mouths, applicable enough to this Purpoſe, *Fruſtra petitur quod mox eſt reſtituendum.*

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Wherefore any Man may ſee, that this Sum is not to be ſent to *England*, but muſt remain among us. For tho' it is raiſed in *Scotland*, and by the Article is *applicable* towards the *Engliſh* Debts; yet 'tis nothing but a certain neceſſary Fiction, that has more of the nature of a *Scar-crow* in it, to affright Children, than a real and ſolid Difficulty to amuſe Men of Senſe.

Could it ever have entered into the Heads of Men in their right Wits to burden a Poor Nation with an Annual Payment of a great Sum, for Debts we never contracted, without at the ſame time allowing a Re-imburſement to us? And if ſo, can we imagine, that Matters will be ſo confounded, as that we muſt ſend yearly great Sums out of *Scotland* to *England*, for no other End, than immediately to be returned back again? This is ſo ridiculous, that 'tis ſcarcely to be ſpoken of.

A 4th Paragraph.

And whereas from the Expiration of ſeven Years after the Union, Scotland *is to be Lyable to the ſame Duties for Salt made in* Scotland, *as ſhall be then payable for Salt made in* England; It is agreed, *That when ſuch Duties take place there, an Equivalent ſhall be anſwered to* Scotland *for ſuch Part thereof as ſhall be applyed towards Payment of the Debts of* England. *Of which Duties an Account ſhall be kept, to the end it may appear what is to be anſwered to* Scotland *as the ſaid Equivalent.*

For underſtanding this *Paragraph*, it will be fit to know for what Uſes the Duties of *Inland-Salt* are appropriated, what they amount to in *England*, and what in all probability they may amount to in *Scotland* after the Union.

The Duties on Inland-Salt, *viz.* 3 *ſh.* and 4 *d.* *per* Buſhel, are all appropriated towards Payment of the Debts of *England* in this

this manner, 12 d. *per* Buſhel, till the 1ſt of *Auguſt* 1710. & the remaining 28 d. *per* Buſhel, is granted in perpetuity towards the Payment of 2 Millions lent by the *Eaſt-India* Company of *England*, at the rate of 8 *per Cent*, to the Publick; which is redeemable by the *Parliament* of *England*, upon paying the ſaid principal Sum lent.

Theſe Duties in *England* amount yearly to about 182659 lib. which by the by I cannot but take notice of, as a very ſmall Sum, conſidering the Impoſition, and muſt neceſſarily infer that theſe Duties are uplifted there, with very great Eaſes upon the Subjects; for all this Sum is juſt no more than the Duties of 1055954 Buſhels. Now can any Man ſuppoſe, that there are no more than ſuch a number of *Buſhels* conſumed in *England*, when 'tis certain there are as many Families, or rather more? for there cannot well be computed under 1200000 Families, when the Kingdom of *England* is reckoned to contain between 6 and 7 Millions of People. So that by all this it would appear as if one Family with another in *England* did not conſume a Buſhel of Salt; and that there's no reguard had at all to the Salt, which their Fleets conſume. 'Tis true, that the foreſaid Sum of 182659 is indeed excluſive of Draw-backs on Salted Fiſh exported; but theſe will make no great Odds in the Calculation.

Upon the whole, any Body may conclude, one of two, either that theſe Duties are very gently collected, or otherways that the Salt-Maſters are prodigious Gainers by ſtealing of a great Part of their Salt, without paying the Duties, and yet at the ſame time ſelling it to the Subjects of *England* as dear as if theſe had been paid.

Now ſince the Duties of Salt in *England* yield only ſuch a ſmall Sum, notwithſtanding of their great Fleets and Trade, I think our Duties in *Scotland* cannot be reckoned after the *Union* to amount above a tenth Part of that Sum, which will be about 18266 *per Annum*.

This Sum of 18266 lib. raiſed in *Scotland* upon Salt after he Union, being applicable towards the Debts of *England*, here will ariſe by this *Paragraph* an Equivalent yearly to the Value of that Sum; or, to ſpeak more plainly, that individual Sum of 18266 lib. will remain among us for the Reaſons mentioned above, and be applyed for the Uſes of *Scotland*.

In this Account there's no regard had to the Duties on Foreign Salt in *England*, tho theſe be very great, becauſe there is very little imported: And as to what will be conſumed in *Scotland*, there will be Draw-backs allowed proportionable to the Duties paid.

Towards the end of this Paragraph we may obſerve, That there's an Account to be kept of the Amount of theſe Duties in *Scotland*; which in all probability will be done by ſuch as Her Majeſty ſhall appoint, as is provided towards the end of the *Article*.

A 5th Paragraph:

And generally, that an Equivalent *ſhall be anſwered to* Scotland, *for ſuch Parts of the* Engliſh *Debts as* Scotland *may hereafter become Lyable to pay, by reaſon of the Union, other than ſuch for which Appropriations have been made by the Parliament in* England, *of the Cuſtoms or other Duties on Export and Import, Exciſes on all* Exciſeable *Liquors or Salt, in reſpect of which Debts Equivalents are herein before provided.*

The meaning of all this is, that in regard there are ſome 2 or 3 Millions in *England*, for Payment of which that *Parliament* has made no Appropriations; Therefore, in caſe any ſhould hereafter be made, it is provided, That *Scotland* being burthened with a Proportion of theſe, ſhould likeways have an Equivalent, as if there were already Appropriations made.

Now ſuppoſe (as ſome of our Parliament were lately afraid of) *England* ſhould continue a Malt-Tax, (which by the by is next to impoſſible) yet if it be continued, it cannot be for any other end than to pay their Debts; in which

Caſe

Caſe it will ſignifie no more than a Sum raiſed for the Uſe of *Scotland*, ſince it will fall under an *Equivalent*. So that not one farthing of that *Tax* ſhall go out of the Kingdom but if it were not a Digreſſion from the Subject of this Paper I cou'd demonſtrate, that in all humane Probability, this *Malt-Tax* will never be impoſed after the preſent War, unleſs a more dangerous and expenſive War ſhould ariſe, than what we have ſeen as yet in our Days: In which Caſe, if our Religion and Liberties ſhall be at the Stake, we muſt not only undergo a *Malt-Tax*, but likewiſe be reſolved to ſell our Cloaths for our own Defence and Protection.

A Sixth Paragraph.

And as for the Uſes to which the ſaid Sum of Three Hundred Ninty Eight Thouſand, Eighty Five Pounds, ten Shillings, to be granted as aforeſaid, and all other Monies which are to be anſwered or allowed to Scotland, *as aforeſaid.* It is agreed, *That out of the ſaid Sum of three hundred, ninety eight thouſand, eighty five pounds, ten ſhillings, all the Publick Debts of the Kingdom of* Scotland, *and alſo the Capital* Stock, *or Fund of the* African *and* Indian *Company of* Scotland *advanced, together with the Intereſt for the ſaid Capital Stock, after the Rate of Five Pounds per* Cent. per Annum *from the reſpective Terms of the Payment thereof ſhall be payed: Upon Payment of which Capital Stock and Intereſt,* It is agreed, *the ſaid Company be Diſſolved and Ceaſe. And alſo, that from the time of paſſing the Act of Parliament in* England *for raiſing the ſaid Sum of three hundred, ninety eight thouſand, eighty five pounds, ten ſhillings, the ſaid Company ſhall neither Trade, nor grant Licences to Trade.*

As for the Uſes which this Sum of 398083 l. 10 ſh. is to be applyed, 'tis to be obſerved, that there's a Preference given to the *Publick Debts* of *Scotland*, and next to our *Indian* and *African Company*.

The Publick Debts of *Scotland* are computed by the Minutes of the Treaty of Union at 160000 l. yet notwithstanding, they may be made more or less, as the *Parliament of Scotland* shall think fit. For I make no Question, but our Parliament will appoint a Committee to consider what is due to every particular Person concerned in these Publick Debts, so that there will be little Difficulty in making them Effectual, since these Persons having Right, will become Creditors upon the Publick of *Great-Britain*.

As to the *African* and *Indian* Company of *Scotland*, 'tis stipulated by this *Paragraph*, That upon Payment made of the Money Deburſed by the Adventurers, and the Annualrents at the Rate of 5 *per Cent.* that Company shall be Dissolved, which Payments, (I supose) must be made according as every Adventurer is stated *Debitor* or *Creditor* in the Company's Books.

Upon this Occasion, I shall take the Liberty to speak a little as to this *Company*, but with great Submission to the Opinion of these who are better acquainted with its Affairs, than I can pretend to. I am fully perswaded, if the Project of *Darien* had succeeded, it might have been of considerable Advantage to this Kingdom; but as the Company is stated at this time, it is of very little Use, except to serve for a little Nurcerie of Dissention between us and our Neighbours.

Who doubts but we suffered some Injustice in that Affair from the *English*, but I believe without full Warrants from their Government; yet, 'tis not to be expected, that the Representatives of a Nation must make publick Satisfaction, tho' they had all consented to the Thing: for in this Case, the doing Acts of Kindness in Reparation of Wrongs suffered, must be acknowledged as sufficient Satisfaction: And this I take to be one, That they are content to make up the Company's Loss, with ready Money *per* Advance; whereas otherwise,

they

they might have allowed us to pay our own Company from our own Money that ſhould ariſe from time to time, out of our Cuſtoms and Exciſes.

The Caſe then being, that *Darien* is loſt, and that nothing does properly remain of our Company, but the Name, I cannot ſee why the Offer made in this Paragraph ſhould not be accepted of, ſince thereby the Adventurers might be put in a Condition to enter upon other Societies of more General Advantage: For ſince it has been contended by very knowing Merchants in *England*, that an *Eaſt-India* Company is a Prejudice to that Kingdom; I cannot ſee how it ſhould abide any Diſpute in this Poor Country, when the chief Trade wou'd be to ſend out our Money for a Return in *Bables*, or at beſt ſome Calicoes, to the Diſcouragement of our Linnen Manufactures. I am not a Stranger to the Diſputes on this Head, however, I ſhall let them fall, only with this *Remark*, That theſe who pretend that the Company ſhall ſtand, and after the Union, Trade upon the Foot of the *Eaſt-india Company in England*, do not underſtand well the Advantages of that Company, for if we will believe ſome knowing Merchants in *London*, they aſſert, That ſince the late Additional Duties of 15 *per Cent.* upon all *Indian* Commodities, the great Advantage that Company has had, is the 8 *per Cent* yearly for Two Millions lent to the Government for carrying on the War, and for which 2 Millions it poſſeſſes the greateſt part of the Duties on *Salt*.

From the laſt part of this Paragraph, 'tis to be Obſerved, That our Company, after the paſſing the Act in *England* for raiſing the Sum above-mentioned, ſhall neither Trade, nor grant Licences to Trade, wherein there's very little Difficulty, for a Sum appointed to be raiſed by an Act of Parliament in *England*, has alwiſe been look'd upon as ſo much Money ready payed.

As

As for the payment of this Sum to the ſeveral Perſons who will have Right thereto, I make no doubt, but that Matter will be ſo ordered, as that no Perſon ſhall be put to the Trouble of ſeeking their ſeveral Proportions at *London*; for this were to leſſen infinitely the Conceſſion, and be very unſuitable to the Wiſdom and Juſtice of a Parliament of *Great-Britain*; which, as it is not to be ſuppoſed by any Perſon, ſo it will Anſwer ſome little Scruples that may ariſe upon the Paragraph.

A Seventh Paragraph.

And as to the Overplus of the ſaid Sum of three hundred, ninety eight thouſand, and eighty five pounds, ten ſhillings, after the Payment of the ſaid Capital Stock and Intereſt, and alſo the whole Increaſe of the ſaid Revenues of Cuſtoms, Duties, and Exciſes, above the preſent Value which ſhall ariſe in Scotland, *during the ſaid term of ſeven Years, together with the Equivalent, which ſhall become due upon account of the improvement thereof in* Scotland *after the ſaid term; And alſo as to all other Sums, which according to the Agreements aforeſaid, may become payable to* Scotland *by way of Equivalent, for what that Kingdom ſhall hereafter become lyable towards Payment of the Debts of* England. It is agreed, *That the ſame be applyed in manner following*, viz. *That out of the ſame, what Conſideration ſhall be found neceſſary to be had for any Loſſes which Private Perſons may ſuſtain, by reducing the Coin of* Scotland *to the Standard and Value of the Coin of* England, *may be made good, and afterwards the ſame ſhall be wholly applyed towards encouraging and promoting the Fiſheries, and ſuch other Manufactories and Improvements in* Scotland, *as may moſt conduce to the General Good of the united Kingdom.*

I come now to ſpeak of the Uſes and Ends for which the Superplus of the 398085 l. 10 ſh. and all the Increaſe of the *Cuſtoms and Exciſes of Scotland*, ſhall be applyed during the firſt *Seven Years* of the Union; as likewiſe of what may ariſe from

from other Duties in *Scotland* during that time, which are applicable towards the Debts of *England*.

The Extent of these in *Scotland* during the said Seven Years will be as follows. Yearly,

The Annual Increase of the Customs of *Scotland*, upon a Supposition that they will amount to 80000 l. *per annum*.	50000
The Annual Increase of the Excise - - - - - -	00000
The Duties of Salt, if exacted - - - - - -	18266
Other Duties, if imposed for payment of Debts	00000
	68266

I have made no mention of the Superplus of the said 398084 l. 10 sh. because 'tis hard to know what that will be, or if there will be any at all after the Publick Debts due to the Civil List and Army, and the Capital Stock of the *African* and *Indian* Company are payed.

After the foresaid Seven Years are elapsed, there will be the following Annual Sums due to *Scotland*.

The Annual *Quota* of the Customs applicable towards Payment of the Debts of *England*, upon a Supposition that these Customs will after 7 Years amount to yearly 120000 l. and will produce according to the Calculations above-mentioned.	71281
The Annual Produce of the Excise - - - - -	00000
The Annual Produce of the Salt-Duties, computing all that in probability will be continued after 17010.	18266
The Produce of other Duties, if imposed towards the Payment of *English* Debts,	00000
In all yearly at a modest Calculation	89547

All these Sums will be applyed yearly towards the Improvement of *Scotland*, without computing what will be allowed to the Support of our Civil Government, and the Maintenance of our Guards and Garrisons; these being to be paid from other Sums and Funds.

I have shown before, That these Annual Sums, tho' applicable towards Payment of the Debts of *England*, cannot be carried out of the Kingdom, wherefore they are to be applied yearly according to this Paragraph, for the Uses following.

1. That upon reducing the Coin of *Scotland* to the Standard and Value of *England*, some Consideration shall be had to the Losses that private Persons will sustain, in whose hands the Species of Money shall be found; for not only our own and all our Foreign *Coin* must be *Re-coined*, but likeways all the *English Species of Money* now amongst us, will be brought down to the Value they pass current at in *England*: But I am almost perswaded, that a Sum little exceeding *ten thousand Pounds* will do the Business with all Ease and Satisfaction imaginable.

2. A *Quota* of these Annual Sums is to be applyed for promoting and carrying on our Fisheries. And

3. For Promoting and Advancing such other Manufactories and Improvements in *Scotland* as may conduce to the general Behoof of the whole United Kingdom.

As for the Fisheries, and particularly that of Herrings, they will be *Treasures* to *Scotland*, which the *World* cannot equal; but in regard we have suffered our Neighbours the *Dutch* to make so great Advances in that Trade, 'tis scarcely probable we shall turn considerable Fishers, unless assisted by a Publick Stock, in manner as is mentioned in this Paragraph.

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'Tis true, an Union with *England* will infallibly furnish us with Stocks, since the Merchants in that Kingdom are to join us in carrying on that Trade: However, some Publick Assistance will still be necessary.

This Reason alone *for promoting the Herring Fisheries* (tho' there was no other to move us) should induce us to an Union with *England*; for nothing is more certain, than that the *English* must fall in to this Trade for saving near 400000 l. that is yearly exported *in specie* and Bills for Naval Stores in *Sweden* and *Denmark*; and if they do, then the most immediate Advantage will redound to *Scotland*, as was fully represented in *an Explanation of some Difficulties in the Treaty, published some weeks ago by way of a Letter.* But because we have been so oft *bitten* with Projects, that we are now turned Infidels, and believe nothing, far less that of getting *English* Assistance in our Fisheries, I shall give here some Observes out of Mr. *Davenant*'s Discourses upon the Publick Revenues and Trade of *England*, Part 2. from the 135 Page and downwards. From whence we may gather, whether or not what has been said is probable.

'That the *Dutch* Trade into the *Sound*, all the East Country, '*Denmark*, *Russia*, *Sweden* and *Germany*, for near a Million '*Sterlin* every Year in Fish.

'That the *English* Trade to these Places in Naval Stores, 'of all sorts, for 400000 lib. *ster:* most of which is sent out of '*England* in *specie*; there being little of the Product of *Eng*-'*land* that the *Danes* and *Swedes* will take.

'That 'tis a wonder we should neglect a Profit lying at 'our very Doors, and suffer our Neighbours to take it up at 'so great Distance.

'That if a Fishery were brought to Perfection, it would 'employ the Poor, encrease our Seamen, advance our Expor-

tations, bring in the Species of Money, or hinder its going out, and raiſe the Value of Lands.

' That tho both the *English* and *Dutch* ſhould fiſh for Herrings, yet there are Markets Abroad ſufficient for all.

Any who pleaſes to read the Diſcourſe of the Learned Author, from the Page above cited, may ſee a great deal more; all that I ſhall ſay further, is, That tho a Herring-Fiſhing, ſhould be prejudicial to the ſeveral Undertakers, yet it will be a very great National Advantage, for tho 100000 *lib*: ſhould be ſpent yearly in *Scotland*, upon taking the Herrings, and only to the Value of 50000 *lib*: taken and Exported; yet tis plain that the 100000 *lib*: wou'd not be loſt to *Britain*, but on the contrary 50000 *lib*: wou'd be gained, as if ſo much Money had been digged from the Bottom of the Seas; upon the whole 'tis plain, that as there is a neceſſity for the Subjects of *Britain*, to ſet about Herring-Fiſheries, ſo when they do it, they will procure in Bartar for their Fiſhes, all theſe Naval Stores, for which at this time, great Sums of Money are yearly carried away.

A third Uſe, for which the Sums ariſing in *Scotland* are to be applyed, is, for promoting Manufactories and other *Improvements*. Theſe may be various, and of different ſorts, particularly the *Improvements*, ſuch as the Building of Docks, Harbours, Villages, Store-Houſes, *&c.* For no doubt, the Parliament of *Great-Britain*, will take great care to have theſe Sums applyed in *Scotland*, for ſuch Uſes as may moſt tend to the Honour and Intereſt of the whole *Iſland*.

The Sums above mentioned, will be continued yearly, and applyed towards the Publick Good of *Scotland*, ſo long as the Debts of *England* ſhall remain unpayed, that give riſe to theſe Sums, but when theſe are over, our Cuſtoms, Duties and Exciſes will fall, and ſo the Subjects of this part of the United

ted Kingdom, will be eaſed of what they ſeem ſo much afraid of; but during their continuance, there will be no occaſion for us to grudge the Payment, ſince in effect all theſe Burdens will ſignifie no more, than if we had Taxed our ſelves in Sums of Money, to be raiſed *Annually* for the Improvement of *Scotland*.

As for the above-mentioned Equivalent of 398085 *lib:* 10 *ſh:* no reaſonable Man will undervalue it, becauſe it is to be paid back to *England* in a Term of 15 years and 3 Months, according to the ſeveral Proportions mentioned at the beginning of this Paper, for 'tis a very neceſſary Loan of Money, ſuitable to the Poverty of this Country, and the indiſpenſible want of Stocks we ly under, for enabling us to reap the Advantages of a Communication of Trade. It will be a Sum of Money Honourably and Juſtly procured, and is the more valuable that it has its riſe from our Cuſtoms & Exciſes, which by our Law belongs to the Crown, and are at Her *Majeſty*'s ſole Diſpoſal, without conſent of *Parliament*, ſo that upon the event of an *Union*, we muſt owe the Obligation entirely to Her *Majeſty*, that we get any Equivalent at all; when theſe may be applyed to what Uſes She ſhall think fit.

The laſt Paragraph of the Article.

And it is agreed, *That Her Majeſty be impowred to appoint Commiſſioners, who ſhall be accountable to the Parliament of* Great Britain *for diſpoſing the ſaid Sum of three hundred, ninety eight thouſand, eighty five pounds, ten ſhilling, and all other Monies which ſhall ariſe to* Scotland *upon the Agreements aforeſaid, to the purpoſes before-mentioned: Which Commiſſioners ſhall be impowred to call for, receive, and diſpoſe of the ſaid Monies in manner aforeſaid, and to inſpect the Books of the ſeveral Collectors of the ſaid Revenues, and of all other Duties from whence an Equivalent may*

ariſe

ariſe, and that the Collectors and Managers of the ſaid Revenues and Duties be obliged to give to the ſaid Commiſſioners ſubſcrib'd Authentick Abbreviates of the Produce of ſuch Revenues and Duties ariſing in their reſpective Diſtricts, and that the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall have their Office within the limits of Scotland, *and ſhall, in ſuch Office, keep Books containing Accompts of the amount of the Equivalents, and how the ſame ſhall have been diſpoſed of from time to time, which may be inſpected by any of the Subjects who ſhall deſire the ſame.*

There needs not be any thing ſaid on this Paragraph, 'tis ſo plain of it ſelf, and there are ſuch ways laid down for obviating Frauds, that there's ſcarcely a ſhadow for the leaſt Jealouſie as to the Management of the above-mentioned Sums. Wherefore I ſhall put an end to this Paper, hoping that if what is ſaid be conſidered, there will very few Difficulties remain upon this Article, which are not fully cleared and explained.

F I N I S.

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1 JA 64

E R R A T A.

Page 10. Line pen. for next read neat. p. 13. l. 28. dele ſhall. p. 15. l. 11. 19. and 23. for 71287, read 71283. p. 23 l. 20. for [illegible], read 71283, and in l. ult. for 89547, read 89549.